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(54) VARIABLE APERTURE

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(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To continuously alter the diameter of an aperture in an octagon without stopping a laser oscillator by superposing shielding plates which have V-shaped cut openings and symmetrically open and close respectively so that an octagonal opening is formed and using a rotation driving source, a gear and a link arm so that the aperture is opened and closed.

CONSTITUTION: Two shielding plates 1 and 2, 3 and 4 whose cut openings are V-shaped are set as one pair respectively and two pairs of shielding plates are superposed to constitute the aperture in the octagon. And the link arm 5 with which two pairs of shielding plates can be simultaneously opened and closed by one rotation driving source, the gear 6 and a tooth part 13 which meshes with the gear 6 are also provided. Therefore, the size of the aperture in the octagon can be altered by the movement of the link arm 5 which is changed into a linear motion with the rotation of the driving gear 6. Thus, the diameter of the aperture can be continuously altered without stopping the laser oscillator.

